



12th International Dormouse Conference September 2-6, 2024

The **12th International Dormouse Conference** will be held at the Hessian Nature Conservation Academy in Wetzlar, Germany from the **2nd until the 6th of September 2024**. The International Dormouse Conference (IDC) is being organised every three years to gather scientists and conservationists to share findings and ideas on the research of palaeontology, genetics, physiology, behaviour, morphology, ecology and conservation of the dormouse species.

The first day of the conference will be the official closing ceremony of the German Garden Dormouse Project together with volunteers and partners (in German with simultaneous translation into English). This part of the conference will be held at the Senckenberg Museum of Natural History in Frankfurt.

Wetzlar, the venue of this year's IDC is a historical city along the river Lahn. It is in the core of the German range of the Hazel dormouse, the Edible dormouse and just north of the main distribution of the Garden dormouse.

A mid-conference field trip, part of the conference programme, provides opportunities to get acquainted with the species ecology and habitats in different areas.



This year we will visit the [Messel Pit Fossil Site](#), a UNESCO World Heritage site, where the oldest known dormouse was found. We also will see habitats of the Garden dormouse in the city of Wiesbaden.



A post conference tour will be offered to historical sites and dormouse habitats in the [Upper Middle Rhine Valley](#), home of three dormouse species.

Partners



Für eine lebenswerte Zukunft **Naturschutzakademie**



PROGRAMME

Monday, 2.9.2024

The first day of the conference will be the official closing ceremony of the German Garden Dormouse Project together with volunteers and partners (in German with simultaneous translation into English). This part of the conference will be held at the Senckenberg Museum of Natural History in Frankfurt.

Venue: Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung (Arthur-von-Weinberg-Haus, Robert-Mayer-Straße 2, 60325 Frankfurt am Main)

9.00	Arrival with coffee and tea
9.30	Welcome and introduction by Prof. Dr. Klement Tockner, Director General of Senckenberg – Leibniz Institution for Biodiversity and Earth System Research (host), Olaf Bandt, chairman of BUND Friends of the Earth Germany Prof. Dr. Katharina Lorenz, President of Justus Liebig-University Giessen Sabine Riewenherm, President of Federal Agency for Nature Conservation
	Clippings of TV-Documentary „SOKO Gartenschläfer“, and greetings by the directors Rosie Koch & Roland Gockel
11.00	Coffee break
11.15	Searchers for the Garden Dormouse I: Research between night hike and genetic analysis Johannes Lang, Sven Büchner, Carsten Nowak, Justus Liebig-University Giessen and Senckenberg Institution for Conservation Genetics
12.15	Lunch break
1.15	Searchers for the Garden Dormouse II: Citizen Scientists and experienced effectiveness Susanne Steib, BUND Friends of the Earth Germany Thomas Mölich, BUND Friends of the Earth Germany
14.00	Coffee break
14.20	Key Note Dr. Frauke Fischer, Expert for Biodiversity University Würzburg
	Is that good enough? What do we need to protect in order to preserve biodiversity? Discussion on stage and with the audience - Dr. Sandra Balzer, head of Dep. Zoological Species Conservation, Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (solicited) - Dr. Frauke Fischer, Expert for Biodiversity University Würzburg - Thomas Norgall, officer for nature conservation BUND Friends of the Earth Germany
	Summary and conclusion by moderator Lars Ruppel
16.30	Joint toast to the completion of the project
17.15	Exclusive access and guided tours in the Senckenberg Museum
17.30 or 19.30	Bus transfer to Wetzlar for participants of IDC

Provisional programme (changes are possible!) of the 12th IDC

Naturschutz-Akademie in Wetzlar, Germany (Friedenstraße 26, 35578 Wetzlar)

https://www.hlnug.de/fileadmin/img_content/naturschutz/Naturschutzakademie/Anfahrtsbeschreibung_NAH_Wetzlar.pdf Für Nutzer von Navigationssystemen: Bitte achten Sie auf die genaue Schreibweise von der Straße (Friedenstraße) und Postleitzahl (35578).

Tuesday, 3.9.2024

start	end	
8.30	9.00	Registration
9.00	9.40	Opening Ceremony (Organizers)
9.40	10.00	Sandro Bertolino: Conservation status and challenges for European dormice populations
		Session Ecology I (Chair Joanna Fietz)
10.00	10.20	Hendrik Queckenstedt: Population dynamics, habitat use and telemetry studies of <i>Myomimus roachi</i>
10.20	10.40	Leonardo Gubert: Ecology and behaviour of the hazel dormouse prior and during hibernation
10.40	11.00	Goedele Verbeylen: They're often in a hole: opportunistic nest site selection by garden dormice (<i>Eliomys quercinus</i>) in Flanders and Brussels
11.00	11.40	Coffee break
		Session Physiology (Chair Peter Adamik)
11.40	12.00	Joanna Fietz: Lactating in the heat: heat dissipation in a warming climate
12.00	12.20	Claudia Bieber: Life history adaptations in edible dormice under conditions of climate change
12.20	12.40	Luisa Fischer: Wanted Dead or Alive: Procedures and sampling guidelines to enable disease monitoring and health assessment in dormice
12.40	13.00	Johannes Lang: First evidence of primary and secondary poisoning by anticoagulant rodenticides in an endangered non-target rodent species in Germany
13.00	14.20	Lunch break
		Session Monitoring I (Simone Bullion)
14.20	14.40	Irene Weinberger: Some like it hot: The use of thermal cameras to survey dormice species
14.40	15.00	Pedro Mittelman: Forest Composition Affects Dormouse Habitat Usage: Insights from Nest Boxes and Arboreal Camera Traps
15.00	15.20	Debbie Bartlett: Investigating use of artificial nest boxes positioned at different heights on trees and in isolated positions by dormice (<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>): the implications for current survey guidelines.
15.20	15.40	Clemens Schulze: Development of a nest box data logger for dormice
15.40	16.20	Coffee break
		Session Ecology II (Chair Boris Krystufek)
16.20	16.40	Stefanie Erhardt: Habitat use and requirements of the garden dormouse (<i>Eliomys quercinus</i>) in a coniferous forest
16.40	17.00	Franziska Sommer: Whether city or wilderness - what matters to the garden dormouse (<i>Eliomys quercinus</i>)
17.00	17.20	Sarah Stubbe: Pathogens of the Garden Dormouse (<i>Eliomys quercinus</i>)
17.20	18.00	Evening talk: Thomas Lehmann: The earliest Dormouse from the Eocene Messel Pit (Germany): Paleoenvironment and paleoecology.
18.45		Joint Dinner (included)

Wednesday, 4.9.2024

start	end	
9.00	9.20	notes on organisation and about excursion
		Session Genetics (Chair Alice Mouton)
9.20	9.40	Gregor Rolshausen: Combining citizen science and genetic monitoring to investigate distribution and population structure of the garden dormouse in Germany
9.40	10.00	Paige Byerly: Population genomics of the garden dormouse in Europe
10.00	10.20	Stefanie Erhardt: Is promiscuity the key? Multiple paternity in the garden dormouse (<i>Eliomys quercinus</i>)
10.20	10.40	Carsten Nowak: Non-invasive genetic assessment of regional population fragmentation in the hazel dormouse
10.40	11.00	Haruka Aiba: Food habits of the Japanese dormouse on Mt. Fuji by DNA analysis
11.00	11.40	Coffee break
		Session Ecology III (Rimvydas Juskaitis)
11.40	12.00	Dania Richter: Differential reservoir capacity of garden dormice for Lyme disease spirochetes
12.00	12.20	Leo Gubert: Apparent annual survival rates of the hazel dormouse in southwest England
12.20	12.40	Goedele Verbeylen: Through thickets and treetops: unveiling habitat habits of garden dormice (<i>Eliomys quercinus</i>) in Flanders and Brussels

12.40	13.00	Shusaku Minato: Bryophytes as nesting material used by dormice on Mt. Fuji
13.00	14.20	Lunch break
14.20	16.00	Poster session I
16.00	16.40	Coffee break
		Workshops
16.40	18.00	Workshop I (EGDI)
16.40	18.00	Workshop II (N.N.)
16.40	18.00	Workshop III (N.N.)
18.00	18.30	Conclusion Workshops
18.30	19.30	Joint Pizza Dinner (included)
19.30	20.30	Film on German Garden Dormouse Project
20.30		end of the day

Thursday, 5.9.2024

Mid Conference Excursion to World Heritage Site Messel Pit and to Garden Dormouse habitats in the city of Wiesbaden

Start: 9 am from Wetzlar / End: 7 pm in Wetzlar

Dinner on your own (not included)

Friday, 6.9.2024

start	end	
9.00	9.20	notes on organisation and about post conference tour
		Session Conservation I (Claudia Bieber)
9.20	9.40	Johannes Lang: Fine-scale species distribution models for the garden dormouse can inform decision-making on future conservation measures
9.40	10.00	Zenia Hansen: From Cuteness to Conservation: Using the Hazel Dormouse as a Model for Cross-Disciplinary Learning on Climate Change and Biodiversity Conservation
10.00	10.20	Lisa Höcker: Got to move – guidelines for translocating hazel dormice
10.20	10.40	Charline Hue: The spread of released Hazel dormice in two adjacent woods in Warwickshire, England.
10.40	11.20	Coffee break
		Session Monitoring II (Sandro Bertolino)
11.20	11.40	Roger Trout: Can the nocturnal calls of edible dormice be used to indicate population density in woodland?
11.40	12.00	Carmen Bartrina: Diversity and plasticity of vocalisations in an elusive and arboreal small mammal: the Edible Dormouse (<i>Glis glis</i>)
12.00	12.20	Niels Hansen: Peekaboo: Is there a Dormouse here somewhere?
12.20	12.40	Jörg Nüske: Vocalisation of adult hazel dormice and pups in natural environment
12.40	14.00	Lunch break
14.00	16.00	Poster session II
16.00	16.40	Coffee break
		Session Conservation II (Chair Carsten Nowak)
16.40	17.00	Rimvydas Juškaitis: When will the hazel dormouse population recover after a 10-year decline?
17.00	17.20	Sandro Bertolino: The present status of the threatened Garden dormouse <i>Eliomys quercinus</i>
17.20	17.40	Sven Büchner: Take Action Now — Threats and conservation strategies for the Garden dormouse
17.40	18.00	Conclusion and planning the next IDC
18.00	18.30	break
18.45		Farewell dinner (included)

Saturday, 7.9.2024

Post Conference Excursion to World Heritage Site Middle Rhine Valley with habitats of Garden Dormouse, Edible Dormouse and Hazel Dormouse

Start: 9 am from Wetzlar / End: 6 pm at Frankfurt Airport or 7.30 pm in Wetzlar

TALKS & POSTERS

Talks: 15 minutes + 5 minutes discussion. MS Power Point or PDF. USB-Stick

Poster Sessions: A0; please bring at Tuesday

POST CONFERENCE TOUR (optional)

We offer a post conference tour to historical sites and dormouse habitats in the [Upper Middle Rhine Valley](#) where three species of dormice (Edible, Hazel and Garden dormouse) live.

This tour is not included in the conference fee, 55 persons have registered. The tour takes place on Saturday, September 7, and will take the whole day. It ends in the early evening and the transfer will be via Frankfurt Airport at 18:00 with connecting trains to Frankfurt Main station.

Fee for bus and lunch (less 50 €) have to be paid at that day.



ORGANISERS, PARTNERS & SPONSORS

The Conference will be organised by Justus-Liebig-University Giessen, Senckenberg Research Institute and BUND/Friends of the Earth Germany and hosted by the German Garden dormouse project "[In Search of the Garden Dormouse](#)". This project is funded by the German Federal Programme for Biodiversity.

Organising committee

Johannes Lang, Sven Büchner, Jenny Kupfer, Franz Langer, Holger Meinig, Teresa Nava, Bernhard Neugirg, Carsten Nowak, Franziska Sommer, Susanne Uhrmacher

Scientific committee

Pat Morris (GB), Peter Adamik (CZ), Sandro Bertolino (IT), Claudia Bieber (AT), Joanna Fietz (DE), Rimvydas Juškaitis (LT), Boris Kryštufek (SI), Alice Mouton (BE)

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More information and registration are available via the IDC website

www.dormouseconference.net
